



Burnaby Council Candidate: Heymann Yip - independent

I've called Burnaby home for the last 31 years, and much of my work and home life has been centred here. I am the former small business owner of a Burnaby-based wholesale food distribution company, Pro Mark Marketing Inc. In my community, I have been an active member of the CPAC-District 4, Burnaby RCMP since 2017 and Citizen's Representative of the Burnaby Public Safety Committee for the past 2 ½ years.

What skills would you bring to the Councillor's position and how would those apply to the business community?

If elected to Council for the City of Burnaby, I bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in business as a former small business owner/operator for 35 years. This would apply directly to the Burnaby business community as I understand the pressures and difficulties local businesses face, such as hiring employees to running a sustainable and profitable business in the current economy.

What strategies do you think the City of Burnaby should adopt to foster the growth and success of our local businesses?

One strategy that the City of Burnaby should adopt is putting a cap on property taxes. Significant increases in property tax contribute to higher overall costs which are often passed onto customers and hinder local business' success.

How would you propose the City of Burnaby manage its continued densification and the development of its town centers?

The densification and continued upgrades to the town centres should be done with the overarching goal of these centres being self-sufficient. The City of Burnaby should manage this by ensuring that integral resources such as supermarkets, medical clinics, schools, recreation centres, libraries, and emergency response headquarters are located within reasonable walking distances. Moreover, the city should ensure there is safe and adequate transportation infrastructure available for residents of these areas so they can commute safely and easily.

If elected, what would be your top goals for your coming term in office?

My top goals would be to continue advocating for inclusive public safety, and ensuring that we have efficient and accessible emergency police, fire, and paramedic services. I would put a motion forward to reevaluate the City budgets allocated to our emergency services to see where it could be improved or shifted to better serve Burnaby citizens. Another top goal would be to put a motion forward to rezone single- and two-family residential properties to build more laneway homes, in order to create more affordable housing.